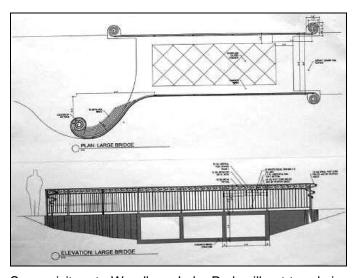
#### CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

# DESIGN ENHANCEMENTS

A Quarterly Report of the City Architect's Office. Fall 2000, Volume 2 – Issue 2. P.O. Box 839966 San Antonio, Texas 78283-3966

### Ornate Railings Enhance Woodlawn Lake Park Bridges



Soon, visitors to Woodlawn Lake Park will get to admire the new artistic railings being installed at five pedestrian bridges. Local artist Leticia Huerta and landscape architects Rialto Studios designed the wrought iron

railings that borrow and speak to the park's historical and ornamental traditions.

The footbridges, which were recently improved as part of the Woodlawn Lake Park Rehabilitation Project, can be found along the trail that encircles the lake. The



painted railings are framed by running wave patterns that cascade into spiral end-pieces. Two larger bridges provide seating areas where pedestrians can sit and enjoy Huerta's vision of the lake's natural beauty, captured in a beautifully composed porcelain tile mounted by the rail's end-piece.

## "Walk this Way" in New Downtown Parking Garage

Construction has started on the city's new six-story parking garage at the St. Mary's Street and Travis intersection. The parking garage will include enhancement components designed by local artist, Gary

Sweeney, collaboration with Alamo Architects. Lobbies on each level are enhanced with unique terrazzo flooring that function way-finding а mechanism parking visitors. The terrazzo floors include a whimsical composition selected shoes, such as wing tips, red



sneakers, high heels, and cowboy boots, along with the garage's adjacent street names and the text, "Walk This Way" and "Please Stay in Line."



Architectural rendering of the St. Mary's Parking Garage, which is scheduled for completion in July 2001.

# 1 Project Updates

Woodlawn Lake Park Rehabilitation Project: Railings

**St. Mary's Parking Garage:** Terrazzo Floors

## **2** Project News

International Center: Mary Aubrey Keating Convention Center: Porfirio Salinas

## 3 Resources

"Public Art Online" / Internet Resources Regional and Local Internet Websites

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**Event Calendar Upcoming Projects:**Airport Terminal

Renovation

# **Project News**

# Restored Mural, "History of San Antonio," Finds Permanent Home



In 1941, the City of San Antonio received a 4-panel mural entitled, "History of San Antonio," donated by the celebrated San Antonio artist, Mary Aubrey Keating.

Originally the murals were hung above the history collection of the Main Library (now the Hertzberg Museum).

Relocations of the Main Library in '69 and again in '95 ultimately resulted in indefinite storage of the paintings until restoration and an appropriate venue for displaying the works was identified.

Recently, restoration of the murals was made possible through the generosity of the artist's children: Aubrey Keating Carter, Peter McCall Keating, Jean Keating Carton, and John W. Keating. Dennis Baltsukonis completed the painting's much needed restoration and new frames were custom designed and fabricated by local woodworker, Peter Zubiate.

The Keating murals are now on permanent display at the International Center, (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor). The International Center was built on the former site of the Main Library (1969 – '95).

# Porfirio Salinas, Jr. Gift added to City Art Collection

A landscape mural by the highly collected South Texas artist, Porfirio Salinas has been donated to the City of San Antonio as a gift from the Lee and Zachry Carter Memorial Fund of

the San Antonio Area Foundation.

The oil on canvas mural was completed in 1957, and depicts a fall vista of the Texas Hill Country. The work was not titled, perhaps because its companion painting was part of a diorama scene in the Buckhorn Museum.

Porfirio Salinas, Jr. was born in 1910 and lived in San Antonio throughout the majority of his life until his death in 1973. Although largely self-taught, he rose to popularity from Central Texas bluebonnet and landscape paintings. He gained recognition in the 1940s after President Lyndon B. Johnson began to collect his work.

The Salinas mural is on display at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center.

# RESOURCES "Public Art Online"

From paper-piles to digital-files and from snail-mail to e-mail, evidence of Internet conversion can be found far and wide. Private and public sectors are adapting and progressing in areas such improved services and unparalleled access for consumers and professionals. Even initial skeptics of online development are recognizing the importance of the interactive medium and constructing websites at a rapid pace. One field that is going online in masses is that of public art. The Internet and public art make an impressive team.

In cities across America, public art is using the Internet bring to communities and programs closer than ever before. To that end, programs are having websites designed that recognize the public art process, which strives to combine public service. community involvement. artistic and enhancement into public spaces. These websites are also geared to increase a program's capacity for outreach and in announcing project applications, timelines and progress By publishing "online reports. documents," programs are able to improve community and professional awareness, and in particular, supply educational resources of great value to teachers, artists and colleagues.

Another strength of public websites is the national, regional and local trend to cultivate online directories and links to information on current issues, conferences, artists and grant opportunities. The evolving network of resources is helping to assure the presence of public art in the online community and in local communities as well. Manv sites incorporate "search engines" to find particular artists, projects, and programs. Because public art is multi-disciplinary, Public Art Program's websites are found in various city departments. Examples of departments that support Public Art Programs include Parks and

## Resource Links

#### Regional

Austin: Art in Public Places www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp/

Dallas: Arts & Culture/ Public Art www.dallasculture.com/public.htm

Houston: Civic Art & Design www.cachh.org/civic/

Houston: Project Row Houses www.neosoft.com/~prh/

Texas Commission on the Arts:
Public Art Links
www.arts.state.tx.us/publicart/public\_art-1.htm

#### National

Institute on the Arts and Civic Dialogue (IACD) www.arts-civic.org

Art in the Public Interest/ Artswire http://artswire.org/Community/highperf/ APIhome.html

Public Art on the Net www.zpub.com/public/

Public Art at World Wide Resources

www.wwar.com/categories/Architecture/Public Art

Seattle: King County Public Art Program

www.metrokc.gov/exec/culture/publicar t/index.htm

> Los Angeles: Public Art www.culturela.org/publicart/percent.htm

New York: Public Art Fund www.publicartfund.org

Community Arts Network/API www.communityarts.net/api/

Phoenix: Public Art/ Milestones Newsletter

www.ci.phoenix.az.us/MILE/stoneidx.ht ml

Chicago: Public Art Program www.cityofchicago.org/CulturalAffairs/P ublicArt/ Recreation. Cultural Affairs. Public Works, Metro/Transit, and Neighborhood Revitalization. Websites often feature unique information community on projects, economic development projects and report on neighborhood involvement and rehabilitation.

Above all, one of the most substantial benefits of public art websites is in exhibiting a diverse range of City Art Collections on the Web. Collections consist of publicly funded commissions and acquired artworks, frequently become a source of pride and stimulus for the community, while encouraging tourism and promoting economic development. When a City Art Collection goes online it achieves increased visibility and reaches new audiences. In fact, the convenience of online research is prompting tourists, convention and vacation planners, and others to use the Internet to discover in advance what cities have to offer. These exhibits also are of great value citizens who to are disabled. elderly, without transportation and seek the opportunity to view their city's collection.

Ultimately, the Internet will not only change the way the world interacts with public art, but also change the way public art interacts with the world.

J. LeFlore

The City of San Antonio's Design Enhancement Program is in the implementation phase of an internet-based artisan resource. The resource will catalogue local talent who design and create unique building and environment components. The resource is scheduled for completion at the end of the year.

Please note: links on this page lead to resources outside the City of San Antonio municipal government. The presence of these links should not be taken as an endorsement by the City of San Antonio of these sites or their content.

# FALL CALEZDA



Aunt Dicy Tales: Drawings for the Folktale, by John Biggers
October 7 - November 26, 2000
Central Library Gallery
600 Soledad S.A., TX 78205
S.A. STORY: S.A. Express-News
Photographers

Curators: Michael Mehl & Joe Cavaretta August 15 – December 31, 2000 Airport Art Spaces/ S. A. Int'l Airport 9800 Airport Blvd., S.A. TX 78216

Internal Realms: External Spaces by photographer, Katayoun Pasban Dowlatshahi

August 24-October 31, 2000 International Center 203 S. St. Mary's, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl., SA, TX 78205 Altar for the Dead: Rebirth of the Alameda Cultural Zone,

by Marie Jesse Garza-Mansur
November 1-4, 2000
Casa de México International Building
314 Houston St., S.A., TX 78205
For more event information contact
James LeFlore @ (210) 207-2277.

#### **UPCOMING PROJECTS**

S.A. International Airport Terminal Renovation Project

Recently, COSA's Department of Aviation began design phase of S. A. Int'l Airport's Terminal Renovation Project. Two lead artists were selected to create design enhancements and work alongside the design team of Marmon Mok and Davis, Durand, Hollis and Rupe. The selected artists are Cesar Martinez of San Antonio, TX, and May Sun of Los Angeles, CA.

Cesar Martinez is an internationally recognized and highly respected artist, best known for South Texas landscapes and portraits painted from people and places he has personally encountered. His career spans three decades and was the subject of a 1999 retrospective at the McNay Art Museum. This is the first time the City of San Antonio's has commissioned Cesar Martinez for a public space.

May Sun has received national recognition for commissions with the Los Angeles Metro System. Her work often includes the use of tile, terrazzo and unique water features to enhance urban environments into public spaces that evoke nature, esthetics and historical themes.

More to come in upcoming Design Enhancement Newsletters.

## City of San Antonio

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Howard Peak

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District 8 – Bonnie Conner

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Tim Palomera

Design Enhancement Program:

Felix Padrón, Coordinator James LeFlore, Program Mgr.

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**Design Enhancements** is published by the Department of Public Works City Architect's Office, and is distributed to all professionals in the field of design, and community and civic groups to foster collaboration and design enhancements for public spaces that promotes economic development and neighborhood revitalization in San Antonio. To Reach Us: Send questions, comments or ideas to James LeFlore, **Design Enhancements**, Public Works; City Architect's Office, P.O. Box 839966, San Antonio Texas 78283-3966. Call (210)-207-2277. Fax (210)-207-4418 or email to jleflore@ci.sat.tx.us.